



ALEXANDRIA:

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 14, 1860.

CONGRESS.—The Senate was not in session on Saturday. The House of Representatives passed a number of bills in relation to the Territories.

Great respect was *professed*, but a short time ago, for the old Whigs, by certain of the orators, and leaders, and writers of the Democratic party. They were soft and *moving* in their advances—very enigmistic in their speeches and paragraphs, and it was remarkable to see how high could be their eulogy, when occasion seemed to require that course. We regret to perceive, however, that, since the nomination of two old Whigs, for President and Vice President, the Whigs have suddenly become "fogies," "fossils," "antiquated specimens," "mummies," "dry bones," "not worth the powder and shot to blow 'em up;" in fact, "not to draw it to a point too nicely," perfect "ninies," if not something worse. Now, we submit that this is hardly fair. The Whigs who nominated, and will support, Bell and Everett, are just as "noble," "honorable," "intelligent," "wise," "patriotic," "high-toned," and all that, (which was said of them a few weeks ago,) as they were before the nomination. And nevertheless, they disregard the abuse, just as they now disregard the blandishments of their political opponents.

The New Orleans Picayune notices the fact that, notwithstanding all the clamor about non-intercourse, the exports of shoes from Boston to the Southern States, show a considerable increase for the last three months over the corresponding period of 1859, and asks, "Of what effect is all the cry of non-intercourse, when, in the very heat of the excitement against Northern manufactures, the trade of the South with the most obnoxious of Northern States, grows, as is shown by these statistics?" The result of the *business* part of the "non-intercourse," (by which, in truth, was intended only the encouragement and building up of *home* manufactures,) we hope is not to be followed up, this Summer, by the exodus of all the men, women, and children, who have the means, or can borrow them, for an excursion to the *Spring*, from the Southern States, to Saratoga, Newport, Sharon, Niagara, and the other Northern resorts of pleasure-seekers. But we would not be at all surprised if it should so turn out.

The New York Tribune, and Courier & Enquirer, (Republicans,) object to the action of the National Convention, and the nomination of Bell and Everett. The Journal of Commerce (Dem.) thinks the nomination will force the *Republicans* to the adoption of candidates and a policy, "without a national peg on which to hang their hopes." Letters from New York say that the friends of Houston, who think he was a "sure card," are dissatisfied, and talk about running him. It is to be observed, that most of the journals who oppose directly, or throw cold water upon the National Union Constitutional nominations, are forced to admit, that the nominees are most able statesmen, and will command a strong, conservative vote, everywhere.

Is there not enough of honest State pride, patriotism, love of country, and devotion to the Union and the Constitution, in Massachusetts, to induce there a *great effort* to shake off the incubus of Black Republicanism, at the next Presidential election, and give the vote of the State to the ticket which has on it the name of one of the best, and purest, and greatest, of the sons of Massachusetts, Edward Everett? We would hope so. It would rejoice us to see Massachusetts beat down and "crush out" Black Republicanism.

The National Intelligencer says:—"It is a matter of sincere gratification to us, that the choice of the National Union Convention has fallen upon a statesman whose claims we can advocate with such entire and unhesitating cordiality, assured as we are that the best interests of the country, so far as those interests are reposed in the Executive department of the Government, would be secured by his elevation to the Presidential office."

"Ion," the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, says that the nomination of Mr. Bell and Mr. Everett, by the Constitutional Union Convention, will have a very important political effect upon the next Presidential election, for, in all the debatable States, this electoral ticket will draw off Americans, Old Line Whigs, and Conservative Republicans from the Republican party."

The nomination of Edward Everett will add strength to the Constitutional Union ticket. What an honor it would be to have such a man to preside over the Senate of the United States! It would be like bringing us back to old times, and good times. We almost believe a majority of the Democrats themselves would have no objection to Mr. Everett's election as Vice President.

The New York Tribune thinks it brings a powerful objection to the party which will support Bell and Everett, by calling it the "Old Gentlemen's Party." We consider the epithet a high compliment.

The Democratic candidate for U. S. Senator from Connecticut, (over whom the present Senator, Mr. Foster, was re-elected, last week,) is a strong anti-Douglas man.

Response from Virginia.

The Richmond Whig says:—

"The National Opposition Convention at Baltimore have done their work gloriously. Amid perfect harmony, and with high enthusiasm, they have presented for the Presidency and Vice Presidency those noble old patriots and statesmen John Bell, of Tennessee, and Edward Everett, of Massachusetts. They present them on the solid platform of personal worth, of intellectual fitness, and of political loyalty—as men who have served their country long, faithfully and ably, and have thereby given the surest guarantee of their trustworthiness—as men whose career has shown that they possess minds too broad for sectional state-manship, and souls too lofty for the petty schemes of time-serving politicians and self-seeking demagogues. Such men at the head of affairs, all must admit, the country never before so sorely needed."

The Petersburg Intelligencer says:—

"The Convention has done a noble work in presenting such men to the country, and we can but hope that the intelligent voters will duly value the prize that is now within their reach, and work with a will for the good cause till victory shall crown their efforts."

The Richmond Dispatch thus speaks of the nominees:—

"Without compromising the neutrality of this journal in political matters, we may be permitted to congratulate the country upon the disposition recently manifested by all parties to put forth their greatest names in connection with the highest offices. Mr. Bell is a leader, under whose illustrious flag even the old Whig Guard who fought under Harry of the West may march with pride and patriotism." The Dispatch, also, highly compliments Mr. Everett's statesmanship.

The Fredericksburg Herald says:—

"Every friend of 'The Constitution of the Country, The Union of the States; and The Enforcement of the Laws,' the platform of principles adopted by the Constitutional Union party of the United States in convention assembled in the city of Baltimore, on Thursday last, will hail with lively satisfaction the nominees, Bell and Everett, who have been designated as the choice of that party for the respective offices of President and Vice President."

The Lynchburg Virginian says:—

"It is needless to tell our readers, that we shall support the nominees with all the zeal, fervor and ability at our command. The ticket is a noble one, such an one as must commend itself to the support of all true patriots, and we conscientiously believe it will receive a large majority of the votes cast on the second day of next November."

How the Seceders from the Charleston Convention, will *relish* what is said of them, and of their rumored return to the adjourned meeting in Baltimore, by the Washington States and Union, we do not know; nor what that journal will say or do, if they should return. But the States and Union is outspoken, and determined. It says:—

"It is whispered about, that the seceders have repented of their act, and now propose to return to their adjourned convention at Baltimore, and unite in completing its work. As little as we respect the judgment or patriotism of the seceders, as low as we are compelled to estimate their real devotion to the best interests of the States they represented, we feel it to be our duty to defend them against the slander that they have ever, for a moment, contemplated such an act of gross stultification and folly. They have no more right to appear and hold seats at Baltimore than at Chicago. They retired from Charleston, and in the act of separation, made it impossible to return. But they proceeded to organize a new convention; they gave in their allegiance to a new body and a new faith. They stigmatized the convention from which they retired as the 'rump' of the party—its 'free soil wing.' How painfully they must regard the effort of the policy-makers in this city to bring them back to compel them again to secede, and again to seek co-operation with those whom they have recently condemned and repudiated."

Some of our Democratic contemporaries are strongly in favor of discarding "platforms" altogether, and of adopting the policy of the Union Constitutional Convention, on that head. For instance, the Winchester Virginian says:—"We hope the Baltimore Convention may not continue a wrangle over platforms. We hope it may take up a compromise candidate, and without delay, nominate him. There are thousands of good Democrats, 'honest and capable,' who would need no platform pinned to their backs, to keep them in the line of duty. With a good Democrat, whose principles are well understood, and the Constitution of the United States for a platform, we should be satisfied." And the Clark Journal says:—"The only practicable way for us now is to waive all platforms and nominate a sound man upon his own merits." So that "no platform but the Constitution, is endorsed by good Democratic authority."

It is said that the "Republican" party are more hostile to the Constitutional Union nominations, than to any names that have been yet mentioned by either Whigs or Democrats. We are glad to hear it. Conservative Union men have nothing in common with Sectionalism, Disunionism, and Black Republicanism.

Some of the more moderate opponents of the Whig nominations, at the North, say that, if the Whigs and Conservatives can not elect their man, they will, at least, by their recent action, aid in defeating the Black Republicans. Well, that will be a great good, if itself.

The New York Herald is now out in favor of a General Convention, in September next, of all parties, to be held in New York, for nominating a candidate for President! It says, it is the only way to save the Union from blowing up!

Two Fire Companies, in Brooklyn, New York, whilst on parade, last week, were attacked by a crowd of rowdies, and a desperate fight and riot ensued, in which numbers were severely wounded.

Mr. BELL was in Philadelphia when he received the news of his nomination as a candidate for the Presidency. A large number of persons waited on him, and congratulated him upon the event.

The friends of Gen. Sam. Houston, in New York, have issued an address in his favor, and will follow up their movement. The New York Express is inclined, we presume, to the Houston movement.

There is a dispute in Maryland about the Tobacco warehouses, which the Tobacco inspectors refuse to surrender; and, also, about the Comptrollership of the State.

It is expected that Senator Douglas will, to-day, in the Senate, reply to the late speech of Senator Davis.

THE LATE HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODS.—Our

telegraphic dispatches in Saturday's Gazette, announced the destruction of property in and about Baltimore, by the occurrence of the rain and flood of Friday last. The Baltimore papers of Saturday contain full particulars. From 1 o'clock, A. M., to noon on Friday, the rain fell in torrents, except at slight intervals, inundating the streets, overflowing Jones' Falls and all the streams in the neighborhood of the city, and doing a considerable amount of damage. During the afternoon, the storm somewhat abated in violence, but the rain continued to fall at intervals, and all night there were heavy showers.

Harrison street, as usual on such occasions, was completely flooded from one end to the other, and for several hours persons passed up and down in boats. Along the line of Pratt street, the cellars generally were flooded as far west as Light street, and the flood and tide rose above the Pratt street wharf. On Light street wharf the water rose up to the sidewalk, and upon Calvert street and Chesapeake it backed up as far as Water street. In all the more depressed portions of the city the streets were inundated and many of them entirely impassable. Both sides of Centre market space, from Baltimore to Pratt street was flooded. In Fish market space the water rose as high as the top of the benches, and every house was inundated, but without any considerable damage.

At Elliott's Mills the Patuxent river rose higher than at any period since 1847. Dispatches received at the Camden station of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, represent the flood as very heavy on the western and eastern divisions of the road. Both the Potomac and Patuxent were unprecedentedly high. The water covered the Union Dam Works, above Elliott's Mills, and reached the railroad track, which is 15 feet above the water mark. The water had subsided from the road, and no damage to the track was reported east of Harper's Ferry.

The passenger trains on the Philadelphia Railroad and the Northern Central road were all delayed. The track was very severe at Havre de Grace and Port Deposit.

Nothing has been learned concerning the condition of either the Chesapeake and Ohio or the Susquehanna and Tide Water canals. We should not be surprised to hear of further damage, in various parts of the country, caused by the late rains.

Some of the ablest commercial writers in the Southern journals are earnestly urging upon Cotton growers the wisdom and expediency of becoming *spinners*, and not simply producers of the raw material. Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland, we are told, are capable of becoming the Cotton spinners of the world, and the day may come when a bale of "Giant" Cotton offered for export to a foreign or coastwise port will be as great a curiosity as is now a bale of Cotton in the seed. And elaborate calculations are entered into, to demonstrate that, if the American Cotton crop were shipped in the shape of yarn or thread, it would make a saving to our national wealth, in the items of waste and transportation alone, of twenty-five per cent. on the total crop, or say \$50,000,000—a sum sufficient to construct the Pacific Railroad, and cut a Ship Canal across Florida; and that the Atlantic Southern States would receive an addition to their wealth, through the demand for coal and iron, and water-power, and the consequent activity in the inland railway interest.

S. G. Goodrich, more widely known as "Peter Parley," died very suddenly, at his residence in New York, on Thursday last, of disease of the heart. Mr. Goodrich was a native of Connecticut, and was born in 1793. He began life as a publisher, first in Hartford, and afterwards in Boston, and edited in the days of Annuals, one of the most celebrated of them, the Token, from 1828 to 1842. His greatest success, however, was achieved in compiling books for children, designed to convey instruction in natural history, travels, biography, &c., by simply written narratives and anecdotes, copiously illustrated by engravings. He wrote as "Peter Parley" a series of works thus published, extending to over forty volumes, had an enormous circulation, both in this country and abroad. Mr. Goodrich was appointed American Consul at Paris under Mr. Fillmore, and held that office for several years.

The annual fight made by the Abolitionists, to obtain control of the American Tract Society, dwindled to very small proportions, at the early meeting, in Dr. Hutton's Church, on Wednesday morning. The meeting was a very large one, but the conservatives were greatly in the majority. The anti-slavery members put forward the Rev. Mr. Walcott, of Chicago, to commence the demonstration on their part, and he introduced a series of resolutions of the stereotyped stamp, directing the publication of tracts on the moral duties arising out of the institution of Slavery, and against the Slave Trade, and supported his resolves by a speech that was by no means very valid in its tendencies.

American Tract Society.

The meeting being held on Thursday, and at the close of his remarks, good naturedly addressed him, or rather an eloquent quotation which he used by way of persuasion. Judge Bronson then quietly moved an adjournment, and the report of the Executive Committee having previously been adopted, the motion was carried by a large majority, and the society separated.

The only further notice taken of Mr. Walcott and his anti-slavery programme was by Rev. Mr. Lee, of Brooklyn, who offered a resolution condemning the German Sunday Beer gardens, and recommending the publication of a tract against the evils of alcoholism, which excited a good humored laugh.

The adjournment was evidently unexpected by the Abolitionists, and completely checkmated all their plans for a renewal of the agitation; though the Conservatives were so much in the majority, that it was useless for the negro-worshippers to attempt a struggle against them.—N. Y. Express.

Methodist Episcopal Conference—Ninth Day.

BUFFALO, May 10.—Among the petitions presented to-day, were fifty-six for a change of the rules on slavery, and three against; in favor of lay delegates, and against the same; in relation to a new building in Baltimore for the book concern.

The committee on missions reported in favor of sending a missionary editor to Germany, to assist Rev. Mr. Jacobi, and to take charge of the Biblical Institute at Baden; also in favor of having one of the Bishops pay an occasional visit to the mission in Germany, Norway and Sweden. The report was adopted.

A memorial was presented and referred to the committee on episcopacy, in relation to the administration of Bishop Ames in the Philadelphia Conference during March, 1858. The Bishop is charged with having held members without investigation, and with having taken a partisan stand in reference to certain slave-holding preachers.

The committee on correspondence reported against sending a special delegate to represent this body in the Presbyterian General Assembly at Rochester, as this Conference has no power to ask any member of this body to vacate his seat without the consent of his constituents. Report Adopted.

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

The Japanese Embassy has eighty tons of baggage, a large amount of treasure, and fifteen large boxes of presents for the President of the United States; among which are several very handsome rifles, manufactured at Yedo, and are an ingenious improvement upon the Sharp rifle. They also bring with them about eighty thousand dollars in cash, with which to make purchases in this country. This money was brought from Japan in silver, and changed in San Francisco for American gold.

The development of muscle leads not always to the prize ring. In Troy, New York, the other day, John McKinney and Patrick Kennedy, blacksmiths both, had an extraordinary trial of skill. The former challenged the latter to compete with him in making horse shoes for the championship. The challenge was accepted, and the working time fixed at ten hours; each man, with his "helper," went at the metal. Their shops were surrounded through the day with an interested throng, and ropes were stretched about the forges to give sufficient space. At the expiration of ten hours, Kennedy had made 240 shoes, and McKinney 210.

A Spanish brig, supposed to be a slaver, was brought into Provincetown last week, by Wm. Hill, second mate of the schooner Rienz, which fell in with her at sea. She had all sail set. No one was on board of her. She was furnished with large quantities of water, rice, peas, beans, bread, fish, and beef; and had also a large amount of lumber for a slave deck. She was probably from Havana for Africa. A copy of board had the words "Brig Don Juan" written on it.

At a special Convention for the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, held at Topeka, Rev. Mr. Whittle, a few years since Rector of Grace Church, in Berryville, Va., was declared the choice of the clergy for Bishop of Kansas, but was rejected by the laity. He being the choice of the clergy, who are doubtless personally acquainted with him, and possess their appreciation of his piety and usefulness. Dr. Dyer, of New York, was finally elected to fill the post.

The Chicago Press prints a letter from Mr. R. Kennicott, of Chicago, who is now making a scientific tour in the far north, in the course of which he has visited Fort Simpson, on the Mackenzie River. He met Mr. Ross, the Hudson Bay Company's chief trader for the Mackenzie River district, and says that the Esquimaux last fall gave Mr. Ross some swords and a ship's copper, which "undoubtedly came from the wreck of Franklin's ship."

The winter has been colder and the spring later in England and France than for about 30 years. The season for sowing spring wheat is in a great measure lost, and oats, barley, &c., must be sown instead. Fall wheat has also been injured by frost. The wheat crop of Western Europe, therefore, is expected to be short, but the crop never looked better in Russia.

Last week a prize fight for a purse of \$600, \$800 a side, took place near Martin's Ferry, New Hampshire, between Harry Finegass, of Boston, and Michael Leavitt, alias Mike Leavitt, of Lowell. After some hard fighting, at the close of the twenty-third round, a sponge was thrown up by Leavitt's second, the battle having lasted thirty-six minutes. Put 'em in the workhouse.

A fire at Hamilton, Mo., on Friday, consumed two entire blocks of buildings on Market street. Loss from thirty to forty thousand dollars. Considerable excitement existed among the citizens, who commenced firing all the houses of ill repute in the neighborhood, the inmates of which were supposed to have fired the building where the conflagration commenced.

All or nearly all the Susquehanna seine haulers have been doing a very good business in the way of catching herring for the past week. We are hardly able, however, to say what the price is per barrel. Sometimes \$1, \$2, \$3, and \$4. Indeed, some of the shores were selling to Baltimore hucksters at \$1 per barrel.

A negro lecturer created an excitement in Bridgeport, Conn., lately, by passing himself off for a Spaniard, and giving a lecture on the annexation of Cuba. During the lecture some one boldly told him that he was really a Boston barber; and a pull at his wig revealed the black wool underneath, amidst the strongly-displayed indignation of the audience.

The ravings of Garrison and his abolition coadjutors, seem to make but little if any impression upon the vast multitude in New York. The speaking is principally by "strong-minded women" and runaway slaves, and the audiences are mostly women. Some of the speakers denounced the Republican leaders as altogether behind the progress of the age.

Charles Knabner, formerly a professor in the University of Virginia, died at Morrisana, N. Y., on Monday. He was a native of Hungary, and had participated in the Polish revolution, fled to the United States in 1828. He was the author of several remarkable works on philology.

Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Ga., has written a letter in reply to several gentlemen of Mass., in which he sustains the principles of non-intervention, disapproves the secession of the delegates from the Charleston Convention, and recommends the delegates be sent to the adjourned Convention at Baltimore.

The express from Pike's Peak, on the 3d inst., has arrived, bringing \$6,000 in treasure. L. D. Hickman, brother of Bill Hickman, had been shot by a German named Harry Hazely. New discoveries had been made at Greogries', and on the Blue and Arkansas rivers.

Blondin goes to Niagara Falls immediately, to make preparations for the summer campaign. He will proceed at once to stretch the cable used last year, across the river, at the same point as before. This will take in the neighborhood of two weeks.

At Cincinnati, May 10, there was a large Democratic demonstration, sustaining the delegates to the Charleston Convention who voted for the Cincinnati platform and Douglas.

Each of the five territorial bills tabled in the House, contained an anti-slavery proviso. This result was produced by a union of the democrats of all shades, and whigs, with a few republicans.

Richard Realle, the Secretary of State of John Brown's "Provisional Government," has turned up among the Shakers at Lebanon, Ohio.

At New Orleans, May 10, a fire took place in the second district, consuming ten houses, involving a loss of \$50,000, most of which was covered by insurance.

A fire at Lexington, Mo., on the 11th, destroyed several stores, involving a loss of \$20,000.

The Sailors' Home at Liverpool, was destroyed by fire on the 28th April, and thirty lives lost.

Salt crabs are selling in Norfolk at 20/30 cents per dozen, and are quite plentiful. A large ship is ashore at Sandy Shoal.—Name not ascertained.

The Spring wheat in Wisconsin was sown at the usual time, but no rain has fallen since the first of April, and the farmers are anxious about the crops. Letters from Milwaukee of date of 2d inst. say: "It has not rained in this city but three times since August 15, 1859. The country is suffering, and water to drink is scarce in the city."

One store on Broadway, New York, retails one hundred pounds of snuff per week to ladies for "dipping" purposes.

Mr. Enoch Wood, of Baltimore, died at Norfolk, on Thursday, of putrid sore throat—a very prevalent disease at present.

The Rev. Henry A. Wise, who has been ill at Richmond, has recovered, and returned to Philadelphia.

Virginia News.

Wm. Allen, esq., of Claremont, reached Petersburg on Tuesday, and soon after his arrival, missed from his pocket, funds to the extent of \$4,500, of which \$4,000, were in checks on the Bank of Virginia. The checks were ordered to be stopped if presented, at his dispatch being sent to Richmond for that purpose. The impression was that Mr. Allen's pocket was picked in the city.

A negro man hung himself under the Railroad bridge, crossing Blackwater Creek, immediately above the Virginia and Tennessee Depot at Lynchburg on Thursday. It is supposed he made a noise with his pocket handkerchief, arranged it round his neck; then tied it to one of the iron rods supporting the structure and let himself down, thus causing death.

At a meeting of the K. G. C's. held in Petersburg, on Saturday night, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"Resolved, That we, as a Castle, withdraw from the Order, and thereby express our utter contempt for Gen. Bickley and his friends; and that we will not send any delegation to the Raleigh, (N. C.) Convention."

The Governor of Virginia has been well pleased with his visit to the North, and has come to the conclusion that with the advantage of climate and facilities for getting iron and coal, (equal to any in the world,) the State of Virginia can manufacture arms cheaper than they can be bought at the North or elsewhere.

Twenty-seven applications for membership were admitted on probation into the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Winchester, last Sunday morning week, and one in the M. E. Church South, the majority of the number being of youths just about to enter upon the serious duties of life. Revivals at both churches are still in progress.

A negro boy, George, the property of H. Keyes, esq., of Charlestown, Va., died suddenly on Tuesday morning. He had complained but little, and no idea was formed of so sudden a result. He had indulged in a hearty draught of water, whilst being overheated.

A mass meeting of the Democracy is called at Harrisonburg, Va., on Monday next, May 21st, to endorse the action of the delegates to the Charleston Convention from that district, who refused to secede, and voted for Douglas.

The London Court for May, meets to-day, the following justices compose the Court:—Gen. Asa Rogers, Presiding Justice. Associates—Newton Keene, John Grubb, Jr., John Grubb, Sr., and Edward Hamlin.

A late meeting in the county of Richmond, has instructed the delegates from the Essex District, to attend the Richmond Convention. Already the people of Virginia are beginning to move in this matter.

The body of Thompson Sullivan, of Fal-mouth, whose mysterious disappearance had begun to create much speculation, was found in the race just below Knox's Mill, on Tuesday evening last.

A tavern at Spotsylvania Court House is kept by Joseph Sanford, esq., and has reached a degree of excellence not surpassed by the accommodation afforded at any Court House in Virginia.

A successful trial of the machinery of the new Woolen Factory, in Fredericksburg, was witnessed by a large number of persons last week.

Mrs. Taylor, who resided in Fredericksburg, fell dead last Thursday afternoon. Up to the moment of her death her health had been good.

The members of the Botts' Greys in Charlestown, Va., on Saturday last, presented to their Captain, Lawson Batts, esq., a very handsome sword.

Green peas in Norfolk are becoming plump and plenty; they are now worth eating, and the price is 37 cents a peck.

At Moundsville, Va., Nathaniel Harten has been convicted of murder in the first degree for killing Miss M. J. Morris.

A Democratic State Convention.

The Richmond correspondent of the New York Herald states that "the managers of the Enquirer, after consultation with prominent members of the Democratic party, have agreed to recommend to the Democratic Executive Committee of the State, to issue an immediate call for a State Convention." "This policy is deemed expedient, in view of the divisions in the State delegations at Charleston, on the question of secession, as well as the choice of candidates. It is thought that the delegates, in the absence of a definite expression of the popular will of the State, would go into the Baltimore Convention divided and distracted as at Charleston." The same writer gives the following information:—*Rich. Whig.*

"I have ascertained to-day that several letters have been addressed to friends of Governor Wise in this city, by prominent Democrats North and South, urging the nomination of the Governor by Virginia. The writers state that his nomination now would be eminently propitious for a permanent reunion of the party, and express a firm conviction that he would be triumphantly elected. This policy is suggested upon the idea that it would effectually check the growing division, before it had time to mature, and probably save the country from disunion."

It is urged that Wise would be peculiarly available, inasmuch as he had no part in the disorders and disorganization which marked the late Convention at Charleston, while his anti-Leocompton position and his popularity with the adopted citizens of the country, would render him peculiarly acceptable to the North. A union on him is predicted as beyond all question, and I should not be surprised if he were nominated by the Democratic State Convention which is to be called in this State, as General Jackson was by the Tennessee Legislature in 1823."

THE RICHMOND CONVENTION.—Only two of the Southern States, Alabama and South Carolina, have made any motion towards the appointment of delegates to the Richmond Convention, called by the Seceders from the party at Charleston. The Central Committee of Alabama have called a State Convention to meet on the first Monday of next month, and meetings of the people in some of the districts of South Carolina have been called to decide upon the course to be adopted.—Baltimore American.

Sons of Malta.

The Supreme Grand Lodge of the I. O. S. M. of the State of Virginia, which has been in session in Richmond for three days, adjourned on Thursday. The attendance was large, with representatives from the various Lodges of the Order in the State. Capt. D. B. Bridgford and Dr. H. Grey Latham were elected representatives to the Grand Council of the United States. It is understood that the Order is in fine condition, and that the Grand Lodge will hold its next annual session in Lynchburg, on the second Wednesday in May, 1861. The Grand Lodge elected the following officers:

Capt. D. B. Bridgford, S. G. Commander.
Dr. H. Grey Latham, S. V. G. do.
E. W. Stephens, Jr., S. G. Chancellor.
Wm. H. Shaffer, S. G. Patriarch.
C. H. H. Shaffer, S. G. Secretary.
J. H. Peor, S. G. Treasurer.

Thursday evening the officers, accompanied by the brothers of the Order visited Governor Letcher. They were introduced by Supreme Grand Commander Bridgford, and were received with great courtesy by his Excellency. After a half hour spent in pleasant, social converse, the Governor invited them to the hospitalities of his Mansion, after partaking of which, Dr. Latham addressed his Excellency in the following neat and extemporaneous address:

Governor Letcher:—I have been appointed to represent, in this visit to your Excellency, the Grand Lodge of the sons of Malta, in the State of Virginia. I take pride in performing the duty thus suddenly imposed upon me, not only on account of your high position as Chief Executive officer of our glorious Commonwealth, but because your name is written high on the scroll of fame, as a public servant, who has done faithfully and well, but because your private life, your worth and virtues, command our esteem and affection.

We, sir, Sons of Malta, profess to inculcate virtue and charity, and, though a portion of the Press, prostituting its mighty power, has heaped upon our Order its foul and infamous slanders, we shall do keep an eye single to the great cardinal principles of the order. We desire not only to keep the virtuous in the path of rectitude, but we endeavor to restore, sustain and strengthen those who are gone astray.

As to our charity, it is of that character which permits not the right hand to know what the left hand does, but I must say that our timely aid has hushed the widow's sigh and dried the orphan's tear; it has made a house of thanksgiving of a house without bread, and has turned curses of bitterness and despair into prayers of gratitude and praise. With such results, sir, and conscious of rectitude, we defy the malice of the world.

We have just been in session, sir, for the promotion of the great objects of our order. Our meeting has been pleasant, harmonious and fruitful. We are about to return to our homes, scattered over the various parts of the State, over which you so honorably preside, and we shall bear back with us pleasant recollections of our visit to the Metropolis of the Old Dominion, and, especially, of that to your Excellency.

Permit me to thank you, sir, for this kind reception of the officers of our order.

Gentlemen—I am gratified at the honor your body has conferred upon me by paying me this visit, for it always affords me pleasure to meet my fellow-citizens from all parts of the State, and to make their acquaintance. I know but little of the cardinal principles of your order, but am satisfied that they would find no countenance with Virginia gentlemen, were they antagonistic to the interest of our good old State and her people. Let me assure you, gentlemen, that you have my best wishes for your success in the cause of virtue and charity.

The visitors then bade farewell to his Excellency, manifestly much gratified with the manner in which they had been received.

The late Frosts.

The late frosts have done a vast deal of damage to the growing crops. The wheat in many portions of this, and Augusta counties has suffered immensely. Indeed, in all appearances, many fields in date, along creeks and water courses are hopelessly ruined. It may come out yet, but if it does, it will certainly not begin to make the crop it would have done but for the frost. The young clover was also, very much injured in some parts of the State. Near Lynchburg, we saw clover that seemed to be frozen down to the ground. Fruit, also, has suffered vastly. In many places in this county, we are informed, it is all destroyed. But, we hope accounts are exaggerated, and that there is less injury done than is now believed to have been.—Virginia Citizen.

A PURCHASE.—Pudds is, according to Faxon, a regular first of May-er; moves every year, and would move semi-annually if he could. He has also a mania for attending auction sales and getting good bargains—said bargains being awful sacrifices from the original prices invariably. Pudds got bit last week very badly. He had a bedstead, and having given it up finally, had the thing sent to auction, to get rid of it.—He calculated it would fetch about \$10 at auction, so to auction it went, but Pudds had to buy another bedstead; so he went to auction to buy one. Just as he stepped inside of the door, the auctioneer was just yelling "Pudds!" and the bidding began. Pudds immediately advanced the bid half a dollar, when it was struck down to him at \$10. Pudds paid up, and in the afternoon the bedstead came home, when to P